



**TORRINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, January 21, 2015
Torrington High School
Major Besse Drive**

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 6:04 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call:

Present: Ms. Cappabianca, Mr. Hinman, Ms. Hoehne, Mr. Kissko, Mr. Knight, Mr. Nargi, Mr. Lamoin, Ms. Richardson, Mr. Traub, Mayor Carbone, Mr. Bascetta, Mr. Campolieta, Ms. Kloczko, Ms. Lubomski, Mr. Potter

Absent: Mr. Thibault, Ms. Aird

SCHOOL/COMMUNITY SESSION

Mr. Traub outlined the purpose and rules of the School/Community Session.

There were no speakers.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. Cappabianca made a motion to approve an amended agenda, by removing item five (5), executive session and the approval of TEA Contract item 8.1. Ms. Hoehne seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

INFORMATION SHARING SESSION

A. Student's Report

Emreen Bharara reported.

B. Superintendent's Report

1. New THS AP courses proposed for 2015-16
 - a. AP Computer Science (submitted by Matt Grenfell)
 - b. AP Psychology (submitted by Jamie Rowland)
 - c. AP U.S. Government & Politics (submitted by James Wright)
 - d. AP Environmental Science (submitted by Thomas Pepe)
 - e. Business English/CWEDO (submitted by Mary DeMarch/Andrew Marchand)

Ms. Lubomski and the submitting teachers presented.

Mr. Traub asked about requirements.

Mr. Knight asked about the Business English class.

Ms. Richardson asked about costs and the number of computers per student. She asked for a minimum requirement of students per course.

Mr. Kissko asked if CWEDO has ever been offered before. He asked if the exams are still taken in May.

Mr. Nargi asked if a block schedule would be preferable for these courses.

Ms. Hoehne made a motion to amend the agenda to restore the executive session before number seven (7) and approval of TEA contracts as item 8.1. Mr. Lamoin seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

2. State of Connecticut technology grant (2014-15 District Technology Upgrades to Support Transition to the New Standards Grant RFP #813)

Mrs. Kloczko reported.

Electronic devices were discussed.

Ms. Richardson asked when laptops would be available for all students.

Mr. Knight asked if this was a competitive grant. He asked if the grant would increase technology district wide.

Mr. Lamoin asked about alternative to laptops.

3. Early Childhood Education grant summary

Mrs. Levy reported.

Ms. Cappabianca asked about designations and voiced concerns regarding liability. She asked who is responsible for finding the sites.

Mr. Traub asked the members if he should reach out to the Board attorneys regarding liability.

Mr. Nargi asked when this has to be approved.
Bidding the grant was discussed.

Mr. Knight asked if the Board of Education approved the grant.

Mr. Kissko asked for clarification on the poverty line.

Ms. Richardson asked about the long term plan for funding.

4. Governor Malloy, Senators Blumenthal and Murphy, and Rep. Esty visit to Torrington Day Care Center, 12/19/14

Mrs. Kloczko reported.

5. The 2015 State Agenda from CABA

Mrs. Kloczko reported.

6. Education Connection; Torrington District Data, 2013-14

Mrs. Kloczko reported.

C. Board Subcommittee and liaison assignments for 2015

Mr. Traub spoke about errors in the bylaws. He asked the Superintendent to provide duties of a school liaison.

Mr. Kissko asked about a vote regarding an expulsion committee. He also asked for clarification on the term "alternate."

He updated the Board members on changes made to the sub committee assignments.

Ms. Richardson asked what the duties of the alternate are.

D. OPEB (Other Post-Employment Benefits) trust – January 20

Mr. Traub reported.

Mayor Carbone reported.

Ms. Cappabianca asked about responsibilities of the committee members.

E. 2015-16 District Calendar

Mrs. Kloczko reported.

Mr. Kissko asked about attendance on December 23.

Mr. Nargi asked about professional development.

F. December Staffing Report

Mr. Campolieta reported.

Mr. Hinman asked about overtime. He also asked about goals regarding minimum absences.

Ms. Cappabianca asked about retirement.

Mr. Nargi asked what a work day is for an administrator.

EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

A. TEA Negotiations

Mrs. Hoehne made a motion to go into executive session to discuss TEA negotiations, inviting in Mr. Campolieta. Mr. Knight seconded the motion. The vote passed with one (1) abstention, Ms. Richardson.

B. Non-bargaining unit strategy

Ms. Hoehne made a motion to go into executive session to discuss non-bargaining unit strategy inviting in Mrs. Kloczko. Ms. Cappabianca seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Ms. Hoehne made a motion to extend the meeting thirty-five (35) minutes. Mr. Lamoin seconded the motion. The vote passed with two (2) opposed, Mr. Kissko and Mr. Knight.

ACTION ITEMS

A. Approval of Financial Statement

Ms. Cappabianca made a motion to approve the financial statement. Mr. Traub seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

B. Approval of Budget Transfers

Ms. Cappabianca made a motion to approve the budget transfers. Mr. Traub seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

C. Approval of technology grant (2014-15 District Technology Upgrades to Support Transition to the New Standards Grant RFP #813)

Mr. Knight made a motion to approve the Technology Grant. Mr. Lamoin seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

D. Consent Agenda

Mr. Hinman made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Mr. Lamoin seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

1. Approval of December 17, 2014 Regular Board of Education Meeting minutes
2. Approval of Sub-committee minutes
 - a. Budget Committee Meeting – November 12, 2014
 - b. Personnel Committee Meeting – November 12, 2014
 - c. Policy Committee Meeting – December 3, 2014
 - d. Budget Committee Meeting – December 17, 2014
3. Appointments & Resignations
4. Notices for Homeschooling
 - a. A.G., grade 2, Eff. 2014-15

E. Approval of Board subcommittee and liaison assignments for 2015

Ms. Cappabianca made a motion to approve the Board subcommittee and liaison assignments with the removal of alternates. Mr. Knight seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

F. Approval of new THS AP courses for 2015-16

Mr. Knight made a motion to approve the THS AP courses. Ms. Cappabianca seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

G. Approval of OPEB members

Mr. Traub made a motion to approve the OPEB members, Mr. Hinman and Mr. Traub. Mr. Knight seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

H. Approval of District Calendar for 2015-16

Mr. Kissko made a motion to approve the district calendar for 2015-16 as modified. Mr. Lamoin seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

I. Approval of TEA contract

Ms. Hoehne made a motion to approve the TEA contract. Mr. Lamoin seconded the motion. The vote passed with one (1) abstention, Ms. Richardson. Mr. Hinman made a motion to amend the agenda to create item 8.J, approval of the Early Childhood Grant (Federal Preschool Development Grant). Mr. Nargi seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

J. Approval of Early Childhood Grant (Federal Preschool Development Grant)

Mr. Nargi made a motion to approve the Early Childhood Grant on condition of legal approval. Mr. Hinman seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

COMMENTS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

Mr. Knight spoke about the winter concert at Torrington School.

Ms. Richardson spoke about a city council meeting and lack of communication regarding date and time. She also spoke about the discussion of the Early Childhood Grant and procedures for future discussions.

Mr. Kissko spoke about the school readiness fair and the legislative breakfast. He said the School Improvement committee would meet as scheduled.

Mayor Carbone spoke about a city council meeting attended by some Board members.

Mr. Traub spoke about how well the TEA negotiations went.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Budget Committee – Mr. Traub reported.
- B. Grievance Committee – Ms. Cappabianca reported.
- C. Personnel Committee – Mr. Kissko reported.
- D. Policy Committee – Ms. Hoehne reported.
- E. School Improvement Committee – No report.

- F. THS Oversight Panel – Mr. Kissko reported.
- G. Turf Field Committee – Mr. Nargi reported.
- H. Education Connection – Mr. Kissko reported.

ITEMS FOR UPCOMING AGENDA

- A. Financial Statement
- B. Committee Reports
- C. Out of District Tuition and Transportation

FUTURE MEETINGS

- A. Policy Committee, 6:00 p.m., Wednesday, February 4, 2015 (Migeon)
- B. School Improvement, 6:00 p.m., Wednesday, February 4, 2015 (Migeon)
- C. Personnel Committee, 6:00 p.m., Wednesday, February 11, 2015 (Migeon)
- D. Budget Committee, 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, February 11, 2015 (Migeon)
- E. Regular Board of Education Meeting, - 6:00 p.m., Wednesday, February 18, 2015(THS)

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Knight made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:32 p.m. Mr. Nargi seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.